

REMARKS

Applicant has restricted the claims in this application to the embodiment shown by Fig. 13 of the drawing. This embodiment has a bushing composed of two parts, one of the parts has a tubular portion that extends through the full thickness of the work member. The second part extends through the full length of the first part. New claim 21 specifies that the first and second tubular members are radially expanded to the extent that the first tubular member makes a tight interference fit within the cylindrical opening in the work member and the second tubular member makes a tight interference fit within the first tubular member. New claim 22 specifies that the radial expansion of the first and second tubular members is of an amount sufficient to introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member immediately around the through opening in the work member.

New claim 23 specifies that the work piece is made of metal and the first and second bushing parts are made of metal.

Rohe 2,700,172 shows a sectional grommet for reinforcing openings in panels and sheets. The grommet has a first portion with a tubular part 14 that extends only partway through the work member. It includes a second part having a tubular member 28 that extends only partway through the work member and extends into a socket in the tubular member 13 of the first part. Neither tubular member 13, 28 extends through the entire work member. The patent does not disclose extending one of the tubular members 13, 28 through the work member and the other tubular member 13, 28 through the first tubular member. Also, the work member is a laminate having a core formed from metal foil, crinkled or corrugated, treated paper or thin fiber sheet, to which facing sheets 10 are adhesively attached. It is stated that this panel is fairly fragile. This is apparently why an inner end portion of tubular member 28 fits into an inner end portion of tubular member 13.

It is submitted that the core material disclosed by Rohe 2,700,172 is incapable of being expandable such that fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses are introduced in the core material immediately around the through opening in the work member.

It is submitted that new claims 21-23 are allowable over Rohe 2,700,172 and the other known prior art. Accordingly, early reconsideration and allowance of the application are requested.

The non-elected claims have been canceled from this application but they are not being abandoned. Applicant plans to file a divisional application directed to these claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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